Amendments to the Claims:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with strikethrough. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Applicants reserve the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A web server device comprising software modules, wherein at least one first software module comprises a first mechanism for implementing an automation functionality and a second mechanism for accessing a real-time operating system.

11. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 10, wherein the web server comprises a connection to a communications network.

12. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 11, wherein the communications network is the Internet.

13. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 10, wherein internet protocols are provided for communication between the software modules and for communication between the software modules and components outside the web server.

14. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 11, wherein internet protocols are provided for communication between the software modules and for communication between the software modules and components outside the web server.

15. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 10, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

16. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 11, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

17. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 13, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

18. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 10, wherein the first software module comprises a connection with an industrial automation system.

19. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 11, wherein the first software module comprises a connection with an industrial automation system.

20. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 13, wherein the first software module comprises a connection with an industrial automation system.

21. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 15, wherein the first software module comprises a connection with an industrial automation system.

22. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 10, wherein the web server comprises a connection to the internet using a firewall.

23. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 11, wherein the web server comprises a connection to the internet using a firewall.

24. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 13, wherein the web server comprises a connection to the internet using a firewall.

25. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 10, wherein the web server is connected by a communications network to a web browser as an operating and monitoring system.

26. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 11, wherein the web server is connected by a communications network to a web browser as an operating and monitoring system.

27. (currently amended) The web server device according to Claim 13, wherein the web server is connected by a communications network to a web browser as an operating and monitoring system.

28. (previously presented) An automation system comprising a web server, wherein the web server comprises software modules, wherein a first software module comprises a first mechanism for implementing an automation functionality and a second mechanism for accessing a real-time operating system.

29. (currently amended) A computer readable medium encoded with software program product comprising a web server comprising software modules, wherein a first software module comprises a first mechanism for implementing an automation functionality and a second mechanism for accessing a real-time operating system.

30. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 28, further comprising a plurality of web server, wherein the plurality of web server have extension modules, wherein a first extension module is connected to an input/output module of the automation system.

31. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the first extension module has functions of a programmable logic control.

32. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 28, further comprising a plurality of web server, wherein the plurality of web server have extension modules, wherein a second

extension module is connected to a converter, wherein the second extension module has a computer numerical control functionality so that a computer-controlled machine tool is controlled based upon the second extension module, wherein the computer-controlled machine tool is used for a high-speed and precision manufacture of turned and milled parts.

33. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 31, wherein a second extension module is connected to a converter.

34. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 33, wherein a third extension module controls a drive.

35. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 34, wherein a fourth extension module controls a valve.

36. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 35, wherein a web server of the plurality of web server is an embedded web server.

37. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 36, wherein the embedded web server is implemented as a single-chip solution inside a personal computer.

38. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 36, wherein a web server of the plurality of web server is connected to the internet via a firewall.

39. (new) The automation system as claimed in claim 30, wherein a web server of the plurality of web server has an extension module connected to a SQL7 server and a further extension module connects to an industrial process.

40. (new) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 29, wherein an operating system on a computer on which the web server is running comprises a standard operating system, a realtime operating system and a web server kernel superimposed onto the underlying operating system via a porting facility.

41. (new) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 29, further comprising a web server kernel, wherein the web server kernel is a basis for different software extension modules, wherein

a first extension module is used for a provision of web pages, and

a second extension module is used as an XML parser.

42. (new) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 41, further comprising a web server kernel, wherein

a third extension module serves to connect up a Profibus connection,

a fourth extension module offers Java functionality,

a fifth extension module processes signals from a webcam, and

a sixth extension module is used for processing XML data.

43. (new) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 29, further comprising a web server kernel, wherein the web server kernel is a basis for different software extension modules, wherein a seventh extension module with an automation functionality has a link to a process and a link to an interface with a realtime operating system, wherein the real time operating system is capable to react to random external events within a specifiable and guaranteeable time, wherein a reaction time is in a microsecond range.

44. (new) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 29, wherein a web server kernel of the web server is a common platform for extension modules, wherein at least one extension module has a functionality of a programmable logic control or a computer numerical control.